

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SAIGON 05036 151134Z

20

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /064 W

----- 014043

O P 151100Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5371

INFO SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

USDEL JEC PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU IMMEDIATE

USSAG NKP THAILAND IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

S E C R E T SAIGON 5036

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VS

SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF NVA OFFENSIVE--SUMMARY FOR PERIOD ENDING  
NOON APRIL 15

### 1. GENERAL

COMBAT ACTIVITY IN VIET-NAM REMAINED AT A RELATIVELY MODERATE LEVEL DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD. THE MAJOR ACTIVITIES WERE A COMBINED SHELLING AND ROCKET ATTACK ON BIEN HOA AIR BASE AT 1800, 14 APRIL FOLLOWED BY THREE MASSIVE EXPLOSIONS OF ORDNANCE AT THE BASE AT 2345, 0200 AND 0210. INVESTIGATION INTO THE CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSIONS IS CONTINUING WITH SAPPERS AND/OR SABOTAGE SUSPECTED. THERE WAS NO NEW COMMUNIST PRESSURE AT XUAN LOC. RELATIVE QUIET ALSO PREVAILED IN THE DELTA.

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MR III

FOR THE FIRST TIME, BIEN HOA AIR BASE WAS SUBJECTED TO ARTILLERY FIRE AT 1800, 14 APRIL. CALIBRE OF THE ARTILLERY IS YET TO BE PRECISELY DETERMINED AND THE ARTILLERY ROUNDS WERE MIXED WITH ROCKETS. DAMAGE TO THE BASE WAS NOT SERIOUS ALTHOUGH ONE RUNWAY WAS CRATERED AND PUT OUT OF ACTION UNTIL REPAIRS CAN BE MADE. THE EARLY EVENING OF ABF ON BIEN HOA WAS FOLLOWED BY THREE MASSIVE EXPLOSIONS OF ORDNANCE AT 2345, 0200 AND 0210. CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSIONS HAS NOT YET BEEN FIXED, SAPPERS AND/OR SABOTAGE IS SUSPECTED. ORDNANCE LOST WAS MOSTLY TO BE USED FOR BASE DEFENSE BUT THERE WERE SOME CBUS DESTROYED ALSO. ELSEWHERE IN MR III THE ACTION WAS GENERALLY AND THERE WAS NO NEW COMMUNIST PRESSURE ON XUAN LOC. PRESSURE BY THE NVA 5TH DIVISION CONTINUED IN LONG AN PROVINCE.

MR4

ACTIVITY INCREASED SLIGHTLY IN THE DELTA, WITH CORPS REPORTING 102 NVA/VC-INITIATED CONTACTS VERSUS 117 GVN OPERATIONS. GVN CLAIMS 216 NVA/VC KIA AS OPPOSED TO 48 GVN CASUALTIES.

IN THE NORTHERN DELTA, DINH TUONG PROVINCE CONTINUES TO REGISTER THE HIGHEST NUMBER OF INCIDENTS MOSTLY ABFS, PARTICULARLY NORTH OF CAI LAY DISTRICT TOWN AND NORTH AND NORTHEAST OF BEN TRANH DISTRICT TOWN.

PHONG DINH AND VINH LONG PROVINCE IN THE CENTRAL DELTA WERE BOTH RELATIVELY QUIET WITH NO MAJOR INCIDENTS REPORTED. SEVENTEEN MORTAR ROUNDS WERE FIRED BY THE COMMUNISTS INTO THE BINH THUY AIR BASE AREA. ALL LANDED OUTSIDE THE PERIMETER AND THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES OR DAMAGE. HIGHWAY 4 THROUGH VINH LONG REMAINS OPEN THOUGH A FEW SNIPER AND MORTAR INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED.

THE SOUTHERN DELTA ALSO REMAINS GENERALLY QUIET. HOWEVER, FOUR OUTPOSTS AROUND KIEM HUNG DISTRICT TOWN IN CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE HAVE BEEN LOST IN THE PAST FEW DAYS AND THE TWON IS NOW EXPOSED TO POSSIBLE ATTACKS.

MARTIN

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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